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Message Text

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53
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 AF-10 TAR-02 DRC-01

/203 W

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R 141447Z DEC 73
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6476
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS LONDON 14760

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, UK
SUBJECT: NEW UK IMPORT DUTIES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1974

1. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS LAID BEFORE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AN ORDER THAT ESTABLISHES IMPORT DUTY RATES THAT WILL BE EFFECTIVE IN THE UK AS OF JANUARY 1, 1974. WE ARE POUCHING A COPY OF THIS ORDER TO THE DEPARTMENT (EUR/NE). IT SHOWS THE FULL DUTY FOR MOST OF THE ITEMS IN BRITAIN'S TARIFF SCHEDULE, AS WELL AS THE VARIOUS

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DUTIES THAT WILL APPLY TO THE OTHER EC MEMBER STATES,

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THE EFTA COUNTRIES THAT DID NOT JOIN THE COMMUNITY, THE COUNTRIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMMUNITY UNDER THE YAOUNDE CONVENTION, AND COUNTRIES RECEIVING COMMONWEALTH PREFERENCE.

2. THE MAIN EFFECTS OF THIS ORDER ARE AS FOLLOWS: A) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EC ACCESSION TREATY, IT INTRODUCES THE FIRST MOVE OF THE BRITISH TARIFF TOWARD THE CXT, BY REDUCING THE GAP BETWEEN PRESENT UK RATES AND THE CXT BY 40 PER CENT; B) IT MAKES THE SECOND STEP (THE FIRST ONE WAS MADE ON APRIL 1, 1973) TOWARD THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CUSTOMS UNION OF THE NINE BY PROVIDING FOR A FURTHER 20 PER CENT REDUCTION IN DUTIES ON GOODS FROM THE SIX; C) IT MAINTAINS EXISTING DUTY-FREE ENTRY FOR GOODS FROM DENMARK, IRELAND, THE COMMON-WEALTH ASSOCIABLES AND MOST OF THE GOODS WHICH WERE FREE OF DUTY UNDER EFTA; D) IT REDUCES DUTIES ON GOODS FROM THE YAOUNDE ASSOCIATES IN CASES WHERE THE UK'S DUTIES ARE MOVING DOWNWARD TOWARD THE CXT, BUT KEEPS THEM AT PRESENT LEVELS IN CASES WHERE THE UK'S DUTIES ARE MOVING UPWARD. OTHER ORDERS ATO BE SUBMITTED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR WILL DEAL WITH THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES, REVENUE DUTIES AND DUTY SUSPENSIONS.

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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